

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A planting machine for planting of seedlings into soil in a regular and uniform sequence, comprising:

a frame;

at least one plant delivering unit comprising a means for conveying seedlings from a point of manual insertion to a point of placement in sequence in soil, each unit further comprising a means to open a furrow in soil, maintain opened furrow for delivery of seedling, and close opened furrow after delivery of seedling, said delivering unit having a rotatable drum, the structure of which defines compartments around its outermost surface for conveying seedlings from point of manual insertion to point of release, said drum compartments being outwardly open for reception of manually inserted seedlings and for release of seedlings to next delivery stage, further including;

an upright conduit means, being open at its upper and lower ends and of sufficient size and located in proximity of, and exposed to, rotatable drum for acceptance of seedlings released from drum, such conduit means guiding seedling from point of release to point of delivery to furrow opening means.

2. A planting machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein said rotatable drum has a central shaft, being mounted at the end of said drum for rotation about its lengthwise axis, compartments in said drum being defined as the space between adjacent plates mounted for rotation on outer surface of said drum.

3. A planting machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein a means is provided to augment the release of seedling from rotatable drum at a predetermined point in its rotation with relation to upright conduit means, such augmenting means being a blast of pressurized air, such blast being delivered through an air restricting and directing means.

4. A planting machine as claimed in claim 3, wherein the predetermined point of augmentation of seedling release by air blast can be changed with relation upright conduit means, such change being effected by manual repositioning of air restricting and directing means.

5. A planting machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the upright conduit means is of rectangular cross section, a portion of one side of said rectangle being open and unrestrictive to the flow of particles

6. A seedling planter, comprising:

- a plant delivering unit,
 - a rotatable drum mounted on said plant delivering unit, said rotatable drum having compartments for conveying seedlings from point of insertion to point of release;
 - an jet associated with said rotatable drum, said jet facilitating even release of seedlings at said point of release.
7. A seedling planter according to claim 6, further comprising a from, wherein said plant delivering unit is mounted on said frame.
8. A seedling planter according to claim 7 wherein said frame is suitable for being pulled behind a tractor.
9. A seedling planter according to claim 7 further comprising a traction wheel, said traction wheel being mounted on said frame, said traction wheel being operable interconnected with said plant delivering unit to drive said plant delivering unit.
10. A method for planting seedlings, comprising:
- inserting seedlings into a rotatable drum at a point of insertion;
 - conveying the seedlings to a point of release;
 - releasing the seedlings at the point of release for planting;
 - facilitating release of the seedlings at the point of release by a jet.
11. The method according to claim 10 wherein said jet is a jet of air from a nozzle.
12. The method according to claim 10 wherein the rotatable drum conveys the seedlings to the point of release